Ministry of Education

Plan for 2018-19

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Government of Saskatchewan

Table of Contents

Statement from the Minister 1

Response to Government Direction 2

Operational Plan 3

Highlights 11

Financial Summary 12

Statement from the Minister

The Honourable
Gordon S. Wyant, Q.C.

Minister of Education

I am pleased to present the Ministry of Education Plan for 2018-19.

Government Direction and Budget for 2018-19 is focused on keeping Saskatchewan On Track by controlling spending, delivering high quality services for Saskatchewan people, keeping our economy strong and returning to balance in 2019-20.

The Ministry of Education remains on track by investing an additional $30 million into our 2018-19 school year towards Prekindergarten to Grade 12 classrooms and continuing to invest and support early years, child [illegible]nd library and literacy across the province.

A strong public education system is the foundation of our province's future. By supporting our children to learn and value education, we give them the opportunity to realize their full potential. We remain committed to reaching our shared goals outlined in the Education Sector Strategic Plan, including ensuring students are ready for learning in the primary grades, increasing the number of students at grade level in reading, writing and math, leading the country in graduation rates, and significantly improving in First Nations, Métis and Inuit student engagement and graduation rates.

We are also committed to working collaboratively with our education partners for the benefit of all Saskatchewan students and residents. Through renewed relationships built on mutual respect and understanding we will continue work together to ensure the success of our students, early learners and library patrons continues to be a top priority.

Response to Government Direction

The Government of Saskatchewan is committed to keeping the province On Track through prudent fiscal management. We will succeed by spending wisely, supporting economic growth, and ensuring services are sustainable.

This focus will continue to advance Government toward the realization of Saskatchewan's Vision and goals.

Saskatchewan's Vision

"... to be the best place in Canada – to live, to work, to start a business, to get an education, to raise a family and to build a life."

Sustaining growth and opportunities for Saskatchewan people

Meeting the challenges of growth

Securing a better quality of life for all Saskatchewan people

Delivering responsive and responsible government

Saskatchewan's Vision and goals provide the framework for ministries, agencies and partners to align their programs and services and meet the needs of Saskatchewan's residents.

All ministries and agencies will report on progress in their 2018-19 annual reports.

Operational Plan

Mandate Statement

The Ministry of Education provides leadership and direction to the early years, Prekindergarten through Grade 12 education, family literacy, and library sectors. The Ministry supports the sectors through funding, governance and accountability, with a focus on improving student achievement.

The Ministry is committed to improving the learning success and well-being of all Saskatchewan children and youth, and the enhancement of family literacy.

Mission Statement

The Ministry of Education provides strategic, innovative and collaborative leadership to the early learning and child care, Prekindergarten through Grade 12 education, literacy and library sectors. It promotes higher student achievement and well-being for Saskatchewan children and youth, and improved literacy skills for all, as a foundation of the province's social and economic growth.

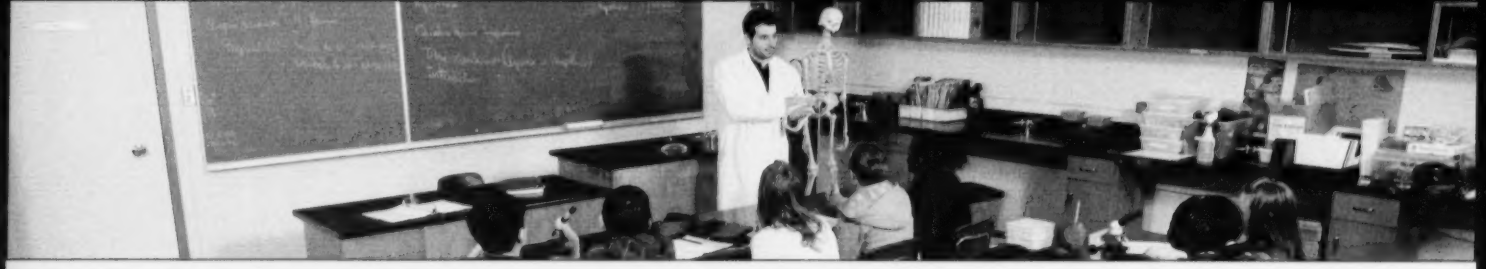
Achieving Government's Vision and Goals

The Ministry of Education and its partners in Saskatchewan's early childhood, Prekindergarten to Grade 12 education, literacy and library sectors are key to achieving the government's vision. Planning and priorities within the Ministry of Education and its sectors are closely aligned with *Securing a better quality of life for all Saskatchewan people; Delivering responsive and responsible government; Meeting the challenges of growth*; and ultimately contribute to *Sustaining growth and opportunities for Saskatchewan people.*

Since 2014, through the Education Sector Strategic Plan (ESSP), the Ministry of Education, boards of education, First Nations and Métis education authorities, administrators and partners have concentrated efforts on a small number of goals identified in the *Saskatchewan Plan for Growth*, tracking progress and enhancing the level of accountability toward achieving those goals. The ESSP has strong support from all school divisions, is gaining momentum at the school level and is beginning to show results.

The literacy and library sectors play a key role in developing Saskatchewan residents' literacy skills, as well as supporting lifelong learning and student success.

The ESSP and the Ministry's 2018-19 Budget and Operational Plan are focused primarily on maintaining momentum for the ESSP.



Government Goals

Sustaining growth and opportunities for Saskatchewan people

Meeting the challenges of growth

Securing a better quality of life for all Saskatchewan people

Delivering responsive and responsible government

Saskatchewan's Early Years Plan 2016-2020: All Saskatchewan children prenatal to age eight are safe, healthy and develop to their full potential in strong families and supportive communities.

Ministry and Education Sector Goal

By June 30, 2020, children aged zero to six will be supported in their development to ensure that 90 per cent of students exiting Kindergarten are ready for learning in the primary grades.

Strategy

Work with the early years sector, including child care, Prekindergarten, community-based organizations, school divisions, the health region and First Nations and Métis groups in order to implement *Saskatchewan's Early Years Plan* by 2020. This work will contribute to achieving the early years goal of the Education Sector Strategic Plan to ensure that 90 per cent of students exiting Kindergarten are ready for learning in the primary grades.

Key Actions

- In accordance with the *Canada-Saskatchewan Early Learning and Child Care Agreement*, Saskatchewan will further build its early learning and child care system by addressing provincial priorities including enhancing inclusion opportunities for children experiencing disabilities, increasing access to licensed child care and improving the quality of child care and early learning environments.
- Implement recommended changes to grant funding that support the objectives for licensed child care in the *Saskatchewan Early Years Plan*.
- Explore opportunities for the enhancement of the Home Child Care Program to increase licensed group and family child care home spaces in the province.

Performance Measures

Early Years Evaluation

Percentage of children whose learning and development is typical for children of the same age in Kindergarten according to the Early Years Evaluation-Teacher Assessment (EYE-TA). The EYE-TA is an observational readiness screening tool with a focus on reading readiness skills.

Inclusivity

Number of children experiencing disability participating in child care or early learning programs.
Number of licensed child care spaces that support French language minority communities.

Accessibility

Number and percentage of children who have access to licensed child care.

Quality

Number and percentage of early childhood educators participating in professional development.

Prekindergarten and Kindergarten Teacher Reports

Percentage of teachers who complete biennial Prekindergarten and Kindergarten teacher reports. The Prekindergarten and Kindergarten teacher reports are completed in alternate years, once every two years and provide information about class composition, training and professional development, and program-evaluation in Prekindergarten and Kindergarten programs across the province.

Government Goals

Sustaining growth and opportunities for Saskatchewan people | Meeting the challenges of growth | **Securing a better quality of life for all Saskatchewan people** | Delivering responsive and responsible government

Strategic priority from the *Saskatchewan Plan for Growth* and the Education Sector Strategic Plan: Reduce the difference in Grade 12 graduation rates between First Nations, Métis and Inuit students and non-Indigenous students in the Prekindergarten to Grade 12 system by 50 per cent by 2020.

Ministry and Education Sector Goal

Collaboration between First Nations, Métis and Inuit and non-Indigenous partners will result in significant improvement in First Nations, Métis and Inuit student engagement and will increase the three-year graduation rate from 35 per cent in June 2012 to at least 65 per cent, and the five-year graduation rate from 54 per cent in June 2014 to at least 75 per cent in June 2020.

Strategies

Work collaboratively with school divisions, First Nations education authorities and education sector organizations to achieve an annual increase of four percentage points in the First Nations, Métis and Inuit three-year and five-year graduation rates.

Work with school divisions that have schools involved in *Following Their Voices* for at least two years to collectively realize an eight per cent annual increase in First Nations, Métis and Inuit student graduation rates.

Work with school divisions to achieve parity between First Nations, Métis and Inuit and non-Indigenous students on the OurSCHOOL engagement measures. The OurSCHOOL surveys for students, teachers and parents provide anonymous and reliable data to support local school improvement planning.

Key Actions

- Pursue partnerships and continue to administer the Invitational Shared Services Initiatives to build relationships between First Nations schools and provincial schools.
- Engage with First Nations, Métis and provincial partners in releasing and implementing the *Inspiring Success: First Nations and Métis PreK-12 Education Policy Framework*.
- Implement and expand *Following Their Voices* in provincial and First Nations schools. *Following Their Voices* focuses on enhancing relationships between students and teachers, creating structures and supports for teachers and school administrators to co-construct teaching and learning interactions with students and creating safe, well-managed learning environments.
- In partnership with Indigenous Service Canada, support the implementation of *Following Their Voices* in up to eight First Nations schools.

- Continue to engage First Nations and Métis Elders and Knowledge Keepers in the implementation and development of *Following Their Voices* through their involvement in Elders' Gatherings, blessings, provincial professional learning and development sessions, leadership team meetings and focus group committees.
- As part of *Following Their Voices*, improve responsiveness to students' needs in learning environments, build positive relationships and share responsibility by delivering targeted professional development for school administrators (focused on the needs of First Nations, Métis and Inuit students) and use OurSCHOOL in provincial and First Nations schools.
- Implement *Help Me Tell My Story* in all school divisions and interested First Nations education authorities. *Help Me Tell My Story* is a holistic and interactive tool used to measure children's oral language development.
- Redevelop the *Help Me Talk About Math* application and platform and make it available to pilot in all interested provincial and First Nations schools. *Help Me Talk About Math* is an interactive tool used to measure the growth of a student's numeracy skills and understanding of mathematical processes.
- To increase support for students in transition, promote the utilization of the *Student Transitions Guide: Supporting New Students in Your School: A guide for schools* and evaluation of school divisions' graduation rate plans.
- Support the development of targeted professional development and other processes for school-based administrators that begin with a focus on the needs of First Nations, Métis and Inuit students.

Performance Measures

Following Their Voices

Number of students, teachers, administrators and schools participating in *Following Their Voices*.

Three-year and five-year graduation rates, attendance and credit attainment rates for schools that have implemented *Following Their Voices*.

Attendance

Self-identified First Nations, Métis and Inuit student attendance.
Percentage of self-identified First Nations, Métis and Inuit and non-Indigenous students with 80 per cent or higher attendance.

Credit Attainment

Percentage of secondary-level self-identified First Nations, Métis and Inuit students attaining five or more or exceeding eight credits per year.

Graduation Rate

Annual percentage of students who graduate within three years of starting Grade 10.
Three-year, five-year and eventual graduation rates of self-identified First Nations, Métis and Inuit students.

OurSCHOOL

OurSCHOOL engagement measures including composite scores for Intellectual Engagement (Interest Effort); Inclusion (Sense of Belonging, Participation in Sports Clubs, Positive Friendships, Bullying, School Safety); and Learning Context (Positive Learning Climate, Positive Teacher-Student Relationships, Expectations for Success).

Government Goals

Sustaining growth and opportunities for Saskatchewan people

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Ministry Goal

Community supports for all learners province-wide are strengthened.

Key Actions

- Embed Student First practices and response to Truth and Reconciliation Commission Calls to Action within Ministry and inter-ministry strategies (e.g. ESSP, Poverty Reduction Strategy, Mental Health and Addictions Action Plan).
- Renewal and implementation of the *Caring and Respectful School* policy to support student mental well-being and promote positive school climate. In addition, plans for student safety will be addressed.
- Continue to support the Mental Health and Addictions Action Plan, in particular, through Mental Health First Aid training for the education sector.
- Continue to support initiatives for Francophone minority education and second language instruction.
- Renew secondary curricula including computer coding and supports for instruction, especially in mathematics.
- Respond to the recommendations from the Curriculum Advisory Committee.
- Work with the Ministry of Health to construct a public education and harm reduction website about cannabis to assist families in initiating conversations with children and youth so they are aware of consequences and to help them make healthy choices.

Performance Measures

I Am Stronger

Average monthly page views count for the I Am Stronger website.

Mental Health First Aid Training

Number of school divisions engaged in Mental Health First Aid training with support from the Ministry.

French Education and Immersion

Number of students enrolled in Francophone minority education.
Number of students enrolled in French as a second language instruction programs.

Government Goals

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Ministry Goal

Community supports for all learners province-wide are strengthened.

Key Actions

- Continue to build and maintain relationships with northern school divisions and First Nations education organizations by supporting a northern approach to the Education Sector Strategic Plan.

Performance Measures

Credit Attainment of students in northern Saskatchewan

Percentage of secondary-level northern students attaining five or more, or exceeding eight credits per year.

Northern students reading at or above grade level

Percentage of northern students reading at or above grade level.

Following Their Voices

Number of northern schools implementing *Following Their Voices*.

Government Goals

Sustaining growth and opportunities for Saskatchewan people | Meeting the challenges of growth | **Securing a better quality of life for all Saskatchewan people** | Delivering responsive and responsible government

Strategic priority from the *Saskatchewan Plan for Growth* and the Education Sector Strategic Plan: Ensure Saskatchewan leads the country in graduation rates.

Ministry and Education Sector Goal

By June 30, 2020, Saskatchewan will achieve an 85 per cent three-year graduation rate and a 90 per cent five-year graduation rate.

By June 30, 2020, 80 per cent of students will be at or above grade level in reading, writing and math.

Strategy

Work toward achieving an annual increase of three percentage points in the provincial three-year graduation rate.

Work toward a five per cent increase by June 2018 in the intellectual engagement measure that is part of the OurSCHOOL perceptual survey of student engagement.

Work toward an improvement to at least 75 per cent of students reading and writing at or above grade level in reading and writing by June 2018.

Work toward an improvement to at least 75 per cent of students at or above grade level in math by June 2019.

Key Actions

- Establish new opportunities and supports to graduation including policy reviews, communicating leading practices within school divisions, creating an electronic student profile, recognition of dual credits, locally developed courses, modified courses and *Adult 12*.
- Provide support and direction to school divisions in the development and implementation of graduation improvement plans.
- Provide support to school divisions and First Nations education authorities to increase student engagement through the use of the OurSCHOOL surveys and response to surveys.
- Collect and analyze reading at grade level data for all eligible students in grades 1, 2 and 3 and writing at grade level data for all

eligible students in grades 4, 7 and 9 and provide reports to school divisions to inform reading and writing targets.

- To support improvements in writing, develop instructional supports for teachers to assist students with additional needs and develop supports for oral language acquisition for English as an Additional Language (EAL) students.
- To support improvements in math, define at grade level and develop instructional supports for mathematics, consult with the sector regarding the use of a province-wide mathematics approach, and develop instructional supports to assist students who struggle in math.
- Support the development of the unified student information system implementation planning and onboarding processes.

Performance Measures

Provincial Three-Year and Five-Year Graduation Rate

Annual percentage of students who graduate within three and five years of starting Grade 10.

Attendance

Percentage of all students with 80 per cent or higher attendance.

Credit Attainment

Percentage of all secondary-level students attaining five or more, or exceeding eight credits per year.

Reading Achievement

Percentage of Grade 3 students reading at grade level.

Writing Achievement

Percentage of grades 4, 7 and 9 students writing at grade level.

Government Goals

Sustaining growth and opportunities for Saskatchewan people

Meeting the challenges of growth

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Delivering responsive and responsible government

Ministry and Education Sector Goal

Sector-wide efficiency opportunities will be evaluated, selected and implemented.

Key Actions

- Work with school divisions to identify opportunities and to develop measures and methods to collect and compile savings realized and other results of efficiency work.

Performance Measures

Accumulated Savings

Total actual reported savings resulting from provincially coordinated initiatives.

Government Goals

Sustaining growth and opportunities for Saskatchewan people

Strategic priority from the *Saskatchewan Plan for Growth*: The Government of Saskatchewan will invest in the infrastructure needed to support education and quality of life priorities.

Ministry Goal

Maximize infrastructure funding to ensure safe, secure and functional learning facilities in partnership with stakeholders.

Key Actions

- Manage maintenance contracts for nine new joint-use schools in Saskatoon, Regina, Warman and Martensville.
- Work with each school division to collect a complete inventory of non-school facility assets to gain a comprehensive perspective of all facilities within the education sector.
- Support safe and secure school facilities through investment in Preventative Maintenance and Renewal Program funding for school divisions to respond to maintenance issues and priorities.
- Develop an infrastructure plan to calculate the Facility Condition Index (FCI) baseline and establish a FCI target to plan repairs and improvements.
- Provide funding to school divisions to address emergent infrastructure needs that are outside the scope of preventative maintenance.
- Develop a plan to address future growth in Regina, Saskatoon and surrounding areas.

Performance Measures

School Utilization Rate

A utilization rate represents an indication of how full the school is based on the size of the facility and the enrolment in it.

Government Goals

Delivering responsive and responsible government

Ministry Goal

An engaged and high-performing Ministry.

Key Actions

- Increase cultural awareness and cultural competency by continuing to offer cultural awareness training for Ministry staff including a suite of options for continued progressive learning and onboarding.
- Continue to ensure the Ministry has the workforce available and ready to deliver on key strategic priorities.

Highlights

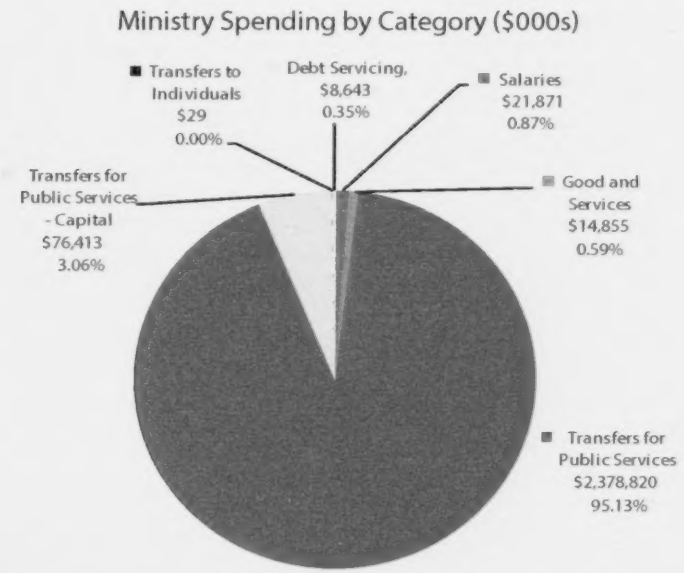
2018-19 Budget Highlights:

- The 2018-19 Budget provides $2.5 billion for the Ministry of Education, which supports Prekindergarten to Grade 12 classrooms, early years and child care, libraries and literacy. The Ministry's budget reflects the change to provincial collection of Education Property Tax (EPT).
- Saskatchewan's 27 school divisions will receive $1.87 billion in school operating funding for the 2018-19 school year. This is an increase of $30 million, or 1.6 per cent, to operating funding over last school year.
- $76.4 million for capital investments including:
  - $22.7 million to provide funding for two ongoing major school consolidation projects in Rosthern and Weyburn;
  - $49.6 million for preventative maintenance, renewal and emergency funding, a 14.8 per cent increase over last year's investment;
  - $3.1 million for relocatable classrooms; and,
  - $1 million for school facility assessments.
- Prekindergarten programs remain consistent at 316 programs serving more than 5,000 three- and four-year olds, for a total funding amount of $20.5 million.
- $76.8 million for child care funding, which includes $20.8 million in new funding provided by the federal government through the *Canada-Saskatchewan Early Learning and Child Care Agreement*. This will allow for the continued support of more than 16,000 licensed child care spaces and allow for the addition of 2,500 licensed child care spaces by 2020.
- $15.5 million in continued funding for *KidsFirst*.
- $3.9 million in continued funding for Early Childhood Intervention Programs.
- $11.1 million in continued operating funding for libraries including:
  - $6 million in operating funding for the seven regional library systems;
  - $974,000 in operating funding for Pahkisimon Nuye?áh Library System in Northern Saskatchewan;
  - $1.3 million for municipal libraries in Regina and Saskatoon; and,
  - $2.8 million to support universal access to library services, and for infrastructure including internet connectivity and the Single Integrated Library System.
- $1.5 million in continued funding to support Saskatchewan's literacy programs, including:
  - $537,000 to the network of Family Literacy Hubs;
  - $500,000 to continue the Saskatchewan Community Literacy grant program; and,
  - $500,000 to continue to support the provision of 20 summer literacy camps in eight school divisions.
- $5.1 million in ongoing funding in response to the *Joint Task Force on Improving Education and Employment Outcomes for First Nations and Métis People* for the following initiatives:
  - $2.4 million to continue the Invitational Shared Services Initiative;
  - $1.6 million to continue support of *Following Their Voices* (First Nations and Métis Student Achievement Initiative);
  - $1 million to support *Help Me Tell My Story* and *Help Me Talk About Math*; and,
  - $100,000 for Microsoft Software Licensing.

Financial Summary

2018-19 Estimates	(in thousands of dollars)
Central Management and Services	12,777
K-12 Education	1,953,658
Early Years	100,665
Literacy	1,855
Provincial Library	12,753
Appropriation	**2,081,708**
Non-Appropriated Expense Adjustment	389
Expense	**2,082,097**
Teachers' Pension and Benefits	418,923
Total Expense	**2,501,020**
Total Appropriation	**2,500,631**

For more information, see the Budget Estimates at: http://www.saskatchewan.ca/budget.


Ministry Spending by Category ($000s)
Transfers to Individuals $29 0.00%
Debt Servicing, $8,643 0.35%
Salaries $21,871 0.87%
Transfers for Public Services - Capital $76,413 3.06%
Good and Services $14,855 0.59%
Transfers for Public Services $2,378,820 95.13%

For More Information

Please visit the Ministry's website at: http://www.saskatchewan.ca/government/government-structure/ministries/education.